

## **NEWS RELEASE**

DIVISION OF POLICE • COLUMBUS, OHIO THOMAS QUINLAN • CHIEF OF POLICE

For Immediate Release:

For further information, Contact: Sgt. James Fuqua 614-645-4100

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## **Updated Statement On Casey Goodson Jr. Death Investigation**

The preliminary autopsy report from the Franklin County Coroner is an important step in the investigation of the death of Casey Goodson, Jr. The report found that Mr. Goodson died from gunshots to his torso.

The investigation by Columbus Division of Police Critical Incident Response Team continues, and Columbus Police will share information as we are able. Many of the facts of this shooting will not be known until the investigation is completed. Here is what we currently know:

- The shooting involves a Franklin County Sheriff's Deputy, who was working as a member of a U.S. Marshal's Task Force looking for violent offenders.
- During an operation in the Northland area of Columbus, the deputy reported witnessing a man with a gun.
- The deputy pursued that man, and there are reports of a verbal exchange. The deputy fired at Mr. Casey Goodson, Jr., resulting in his death.
- A firearm was recovered from Mr. Goodson.
- Mr. Goodson had a concealed carry permit.
- Mr. Goodson was not the person being sought by the U.S. Marshal's Task Force.
- This shooting occurred in the jurisdiction of the City of Columbus but did not involve any Columbus Police Officers.
- Columbus Police Homicide Detectives are the primary investigators who are charged with gathering and documenting the facts of this incident.
- Investigators continue gathering facts including a statement from the deputy who fired his weapon.
- No other officers reported witnessing the shooting.
- No civilian eyewitnesses to the shooting have been identified. Statements claiming otherwise are not supported by a 911 call, a public record released to the media Monday. Any eyewitnesses with relevant information pertaining to any part of this event should contact CPD Homicide at 614-645-4730.



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- We have also seen a number of incorrect statements circulating, which can only serve to add to the pain and confusion of an already tragic situation.
- There is no body-worn camera footage captured of the actual shooting.
   Franklin County Sheriff's task force officers are not issued body-worn cameras.
- The Franklin County Coroner's final report will be completed in approximately 12 to 14 weeks.
- The Division will provide all evidence to the Franklin County Prosecutor
  who will review the facts gathered. The prosecutor will present the findings
  to a civilian grand jury. The grand jury will determine whether criminal
  charges should be filed.

Once the court process is completed, all investigation records will become public record, available to anyone who requests them.

At the request of Columbus Police Chief Tom Quinlan, the United States Department of Justice, through United States Attorney David DeVillers and the FBI, is conducting a concurrent Civil Rights investigation, independent of the Columbus Police investigation.

Statements made by representatives of other agencies involved in the Friday Task Force operation were viewpoints expressed by those not involved and without knowledge of the investigation. Columbus Police are conducting the investigation. We have not predetermined the outcome of the investigation. Our commitment is to follow the evidence. That is what we owe the family of Casey Goodson, and the community we serve.

As with all criminal investigations, some investigative information is protected and will not be released until the investigation and legal process have concluded. This is to maintain the integrity of the investigation, to ensure an accurate, untainted outcome, and to protect the interests of everyone impacted by this tragedy.